



## Department of Homeland Security Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 04 December 2007

Current Nationwide



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- *WKMG 6* and *Rotornews* reported that starting December 3, ten U.S. airports will begin requiring nearly all foreigners to have 10 fingerprints scanned under an expanded version of the US-VISIT migrant tracking system. Mexicans with border-crossing cards and most Canadians are exempt from the program. The system will be rolled out at eight other airports by March 2008. (See item [15](#))
- According to *United Press International*, a subcommittee of the U.S. Food and Drug Administration's science board will release Tuesday a report stating that the nation's food supply is at risk, as are the FDA's regulatory systems. The report attributes the deficiencies to increasing demands on the FDA, as well as a lack of resources that have not increased in proportion to the demands. (See item [20](#))

### **DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report Fast Jump**

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## **Energy Sector**

Current Electricity Sector Threat Alert Levels: **Physical**: ELEVATED, **Cyber**: ELEVATED

Scale: LOW, GUARDED, ELEVATED, HIGH, SEVERE [Source: ISAC for the Electricity Sector (ES-ISAC) – <http://www.esisac.com>]

1. *December 2, KHOU 11 Houston* – (Texas) **Texas City power outage triggers chemical plant sirens.** An electrical problem in Texas City knocked out power Sunday evening for more than 3,000 customers for more than an hour. Several of the city's oil refineries and chemical plants were also affected, disrupting operations at some sites. Alarms and sirens were tripped at a number of the facilities. However, city officials said that there were no chemical releases from the affected facilities.

Source:

[http://www.khou.com/news/local/stories/khou071202\\_mh\\_texascityoutage.607f2be4.html](http://www.khou.com/news/local/stories/khou071202_mh_texascityoutage.607f2be4.html)

2. *December 2, Sun Herald* – (Mississippi) **Mississippi rivers could be used to hollow salt dome for oil storage.** The federal government wants to drain 50 million gallons of water each day for five years from either the Leaf River or Pascagoula River to hollow out the Richton salt dome for underground oil storage. The plan has been criticized by local officials and conservationists, who say the government quietly pushed it through in the disarray after Katrina. In a process called solution mining, the Department of Energy will pipe fresh water from one of those rivers to dissolve the salt dome 18 miles east of Hattiesburg, Mississippi. Another set of pipes will carry the briny water from the dome to the Mississippi Sound and dump it near Horn Island. Mining could start in 2008. Then 160 million barrels, or about 5 billion gallons, of crude oil will be pumped into the resulting cavern over five or so more years. Richton was chosen as part of the expansion of the Strategic Petroleum Reserve, a federal program that stores oil in the event of an emergency.

Source:

<http://www.clarionledger.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20071202/NEWS/71202005>

3. *December 1, Reuters* – (Alaska) **Alaska gets 5 applications for natural gas.** Five companies, partnerships and entities have submitted proposals to build a massive pipeline from Alaska's North Slope to bring the region's vast, but long-languishing natural gas reserves to markets thousands of miles away, state officials announced Friday. The proposals, submitted under the Alaska Gasline Inducement Act passed by the legislature earlier this year, will vie against each other for state support. Friday was the deadline for applications to be submitted. "This is such an exciting day for Alaska and really an exciting day for America," the state's governor, who organized the competitive-bidding strategy, said at a news conference. "Today's progress under AGIA demonstrates to the world that Alaska is well on our way to bringing this long sought-after infrastructure, a natural gas pipeline, to fruition."

Source: [http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-](http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2007/12/01/AR2007120100236.html)

[dyn/content/article/2007/12/01/AR2007120100236.html](http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2007/12/01/AR2007120100236.html)

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## **Chemical Industry Sector**

4. *December 3, Capital Newspapers* – (Wisconsin) **Badger Ammunition chemical possibly more toxic than first believed.** A toxic and potentially cancer-causing chemical dumped at Badger Army Ammunition Plant years ago could be more dangerous than federal and state officials think, one scientist warns. The Badger Army Ammunition Plant south of Baraboo, Wisconsin, was operational during conflicts from World War II through the Vietnam War. Clean-up efforts at the 7,000-acre plant, built in 1942, have been under way since the Army said the plant would no longer be needed in 1995. Department of Natural Resources reports show that all forms of the chemical DNT have been found in groundwater from the base of the Baraboo bluffs to Prairie du Sac. DNT attacks the cardiovascular, nervous and reproductive systems and can cause

headaches, fatigue, nausea, vomiting, and chest pain, according to a state toxicologist's report.

Source: <http://www.wiscnews.com/pdr/news//index.php?ntid=259977>

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## **Nuclear Reactors, Materials, and Waste Sector**

5. *December 3, Los Angeles Times* – (Nevada) **Yucca Mountain remains nuclear waste dump choice.** The federal plan to bury nuclear waste at a dump in Yucca Mountain, Nevada, has encountered one setback after another in the courts. It is hated in much of the West; it looks like it is in deep political trouble in Congress; and a number of presidential candidates have attacked the dump. However, the wheels of the U.S. Energy Department bureaucracy are still going through the legal process to get a license for Yucca Mountain, where it wants to bury 70 metric tons of spent commercial fuel and nuclear weapons waste. In the last week, the department has held a series of public hearings on two environmental impact statements, a process required under federal law. Asked about public opposition to the dump, the Energy Department's director of civilian radioactive waste management, said in an interview, "I wouldn't expect anything less. This program has been around a long time and it has a lot of history." Government scientists insist that there is no chance any radioactivity could leak for 10,000 years and that the dump will be safe for hundreds of thousands of years after that.

Source:

[http://www.boston.com/news/nation/articles/2007/12/03/yucca\\_mountain\\_remains\\_nuclear\\_waste\\_dump\\_choice/](http://www.boston.com/news/nation/articles/2007/12/03/yucca_mountain_remains_nuclear_waste_dump_choice/)

6. *December 3, Miami Herald* – (Florida) **Environmentalists: Delay vote on nuclear reactors.** Biscayne National Park managers and environmentalists want Miami-Dade County commissioners to postpone a December 20 zoning vote that would allow the building of two new nuclear reactors at Turkey Point, Florida, arguing there are too many unanswered questions about impacts on the water supply, coastal wetlands and marine life. Florida Power and Light Company (FPL) and county managers agree, but insist getting answers now is not essential for a zoning application that is one early step in a review that will take years and require approvals from an array of state and federal regulators. An FPL spokesman said the company was still deciding between two types of advanced light-water reactors and would study all possible options to cool them – the bay, the ocean, existing cooling canals, deep underground aquifers and treated wastewater. The county's Development Impact Committee last week rejected requests to defer its vote by the park and environmental groups, including The National Parks Conservation Association, Clean Water Action and the Sierra Club. The committee signed off on FPL's permit, sending it to the County Commission for a final decision at a public hearing.

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7. *December 2, Associated Press* – (Tennessee) **E. Tennessee nuclear plant can store more uranium.** The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission will allow Nuclear Fuel Services (NFS) to keep more uranium at its Erwin, Tennessee, facility, a decision that

makes some residents unhappy. The plant makes nuclear fuel for the U.S. Navy and converts or “downblends” surplus bomb-grade uranium into commercial reactor fuel for the Tennessee Valley Authority. Nine gallons of highly enriched uranium leaked in the NFS downblending operation on March 6, 2006. Disclosing the incident more than a year later, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission said only luck prevented the spill from collecting and exposing workers to a deadly dose of radiation. A retired U.S. Department of Defense public affairs officer, who lives in Erwin, opposes additional enriched-uranium storage there. The company says the additional storage poses no hazard to the community or the environment.

Source:

<http://www.tennessean.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20071202/NEWS02/712020388>

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## **Defense Industrial Base Sector**

8. *December 3, Aviation Week* – (National) **Domestic, combat airspace control next big UAV issue.** Airspace issues, whether access to domestic skies or control over a combat arena, is the next big focus for unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs) and needs to be worked out imminently, according to a panel of one-star U.S. military leaders. The four chiefs of service aviation and intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance branches told the Army Aviation Association of America’s unmanned aircraft symposium last week that the military should crystallize combat air control regarding UAVs, while domestic authorities must work out access and use of UAVs in domestic airspace. The opinions come after the deputy defense secretary recently ruled that the Air Force will not become the executive agent for high-flying unmanned aircraft, although the armed services were ordered to work together under a Pentagon-led task force to better align disparate programs and efforts. That decision has not ended debate over who should control all UAV initiatives in the Defense Department. At the same time, comments made by the admiral and generals all indicated that military officials increasingly acknowledge that their respective unmanned systems must be interoperable with other services and agencies for greater effectiveness. And with rising costs commanding attention, they should avoid duplicative spending too.

Source:

[http://www.aviationweek.com/aw/generic/story\\_generic.jsp?channel=aerospacedaily&id=news/MDA120307.xml&headline=Domestic,%20Combat%20Airspace%20Control%20Next%20Big%20UAV%20Issue](http://www.aviationweek.com/aw/generic/story_generic.jsp?channel=aerospacedaily&id=news/MDA120307.xml&headline=Domestic,%20Combat%20Airspace%20Control%20Next%20Big%20UAV%20Issue)

9. *December 3, Spacewar* – (National) **Northrop Grumman receives contract for ICBM Propulsion Replacement Program.** The U.S. Air Force awarded Northrop Grumman a 23-month, \$176 million contract in October to continue the full-rate production phase of the Intercontinental Ballistic Missile (ICBM) Propulsion Replacement Program (PRP). The program will replace aging solid-rocket motor sets for stages 1, 2, and 3 in the Minuteman III missile arsenal with re-manufactured motors to maintain alert-readiness status through 2030. This award represents the seventh and final full-rate production option under the ten-year, cost plus award fee/incentive fee PRP contract. The PRP contract began in 1999 and is valued at \$1.9 billion. Under this option, Northrop

Grumman will deliver 56 motor sets, for a total of 601. A motor set is comprised of a stage 1, stage 2, stage 3 and interstage ordnance components.

Source:

[http://www.spacewar.com/reports/Northrop\\_Grumman\\_Receives\\_Contract\\_For\\_ICBM\\_Propulsion\\_Replacement\\_Program\\_999.html](http://www.spacewar.com/reports/Northrop_Grumman_Receives_Contract_For_ICBM_Propulsion_Replacement_Program_999.html)

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## **Banking and Finance Sector**

10. *December 3, South Bend Tribune* – (Indiana) **Fake TCU message targets consumers.**

An e-mail, which includes the Teachers Credit Union (TCU) logo, begins by telling readers that the TCU is aware of new phishing e-mails circulating among Web users. “Due to unusual levels of fraud, has had to suspend all future authorizations with your TCU Visa Card.” That is the message arriving in the inboxes of many e-mail users throughout the South Bend, Indiana, area. “These e-mails request consumers to click a link due to a compromise of a credit card account,” the e-mail warns. The reader then learns that his or her Visa Card has been deactivated. To reactivate the card, recipients can simply stop by their respective branches or call TCU’s Card Department at a number provided, the e-mail says. “By mentioning a branch location, they hope you will be more likely to just pick up the telephone and make the call to the fraudulent number they listed instead,” the TCU vice president of marketing and research said. She reminds consumers to never give out their personal information to anyone. If you are suspicious of an e-mail or a phone call, do not respond. Instead, call TCU using a legitimate phone number published in the phone book. “TCU will never send an e-mail asking for your personal information,” she said.

Source:

<http://www.southbendtribune.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20071203/Biz/712030452/1013/Biz>

11. *December 2, Associated Press* – (District of Columbia) **Tax scam may have cost**

**District \$44 million.** A new analysis shows the D.C. government could have lost more than \$44 million in the past nine years because of an alleged fraudulent scheme involving employees in the city tax office. That is more than double the amount prosecutors have declared to be missing. The *Washington Post* analyzed city records and identified 160 checks totaling \$44.3 million since June 1999 that lacked the court orders required for legitimate refunds. Federal authorities acknowledge they are still trying to determine the depth of the loss.

Source:

<http://www.myfoxdc.com/myfox/pages/News/Detail?contentId=5102173&version=2&ocale=EN-US&layoutCode=TSTY&pageId=3.2.1>

12. *December 1, KOIN 6 Portland* – (Oregon) **Alert: Operation Santa scam.** Someone using the name “Operation Santa” is asking for donations over the telephone on behalf of the Clackamas County Fire District in Oregon, reports say. Authorities want people to know that Clackamas Fire’s Operation Santa does not solicit funds via phone. Instead, the fire district collects food, toys and monetary donations during neighborhood parades

from December 1 until just before Christmas.

Source: <http://www.koin.com/Global/story.asp?S=7437059>

13. *November 30, Atlanta Journal Constitution* – (National) **Duluth man netted nearly \$1M in alleged card scam.** A Duluth, Georgia, man is facing a fraud charge after police say he used stolen credit card information to steal almost a million dollars from Western Union. The man used credit card information stolen from victims across the nation to obtain wire transfers, a Duluth Police Department official said in a statement Thursday. Police said the wire transfers were sent to Duluth and other destinations, including some outside the United States, with a combined loss to Western Union in excess of \$950,000. The Duluth Police Department is working with the Secret Service to locate all of the victims and identify all persons responsible for the crimes, said the official.
- Source:  
[http://www.ajc.com/metro/content/metro/gwinnett/stories/2007/11/30/fraud\\_1130.html](http://www.ajc.com/metro/content/metro/gwinnett/stories/2007/11/30/fraud_1130.html)

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## **Transportation Sector**

14. *December 3, Times Colonist* – (International) **Man arrested in ferry bomb threat.** Police evacuated the B.C. Ferries terminal at Tsawwassen in British Columbia, Canada, on Saturday and arrested a foot-passenger who was overheard saying that he was going to set off a bomb on the Spirit of Vancouver. Bomb-sniffing dogs from the Delta police and Royal Canadian Mounted Police swept the terminal, but failed to locate any explosives. Ferry service resumed after a brief delay. It is the third time this year that B.C. Ferries has been the target of a threat, and the company is threatening possible legal action in the latest incident. On July 28, another bomb threat was made against B.C. Ferries that halted ferry traffic for five hours and delayed thousands of passengers. Delta police ordered a forensic analysis of the tape containing the telephoned bomb threat.
- Source: <http://www.canada.com/victoriatimescolonist/story.html?id=69483203-8dc6-47ee-96e6-1a8ef5c71ec2&k=8048>
15. *December 3, WKMG 6 Orlando and Rotornews* – (National) **Airports begins 10-fingerprint scanning of foreigners.** Starting December 3, Orlando International Airport, Dulles International Airport outside Washington, D.C., and eight other major airports nationwide will begin requiring nearly all foreigners to have 10 fingerprints scanned under an expanded version of the US-VISIT migrant tracking system. Foreigners have been required to have only two fingerprints scanned into the US-VISIT system, which compares that biometric information to government watch lists in order to identify potential terrorists, criminals, or people who have violated immigration laws. The transition to 10 fingerprints has been years in the making. Critics have noted that US-VISIT is not fully compatible with the FBI's Integrated Automated Fingerprint Identification System database, which uses 10 fingerprints to identify criminals. Additionally, the State Department is already using scanners for 10 fingerprints at most of its visa issuing centers around the world. Mexicans with border-crossing cards and most Canadians are exempt from the program. A spokeswoman said Homeland Security



has begun a public relations campaign to inform international travelers of the new procedures and does not expect wait times at airports to increase. The system will be rolled out at eight other airports by March 2008.

Source: <http://www.local6.com/travelgetaways/14756571/detail.html> and <http://www.rotor.com/Default.aspx?tabid=510&newsid905=57095>

16. *December 2, Associated Press* – (Illinois) **Amtrak train was speeding when it crashed, probe finds.** An Amtrak train was going about 25 mph over the speed limit before it hit a stationary freight train, federal officials said Sunday. The speed limit on that portion of track, which is usually 79 mph, had been reduced to 15 mph by a red and yellow “restricting signal,” indicating another train was on the track, the official said. The Amtrak train’s engineer told investigators he realized the speed limit was 15 mph in that stretch of track but accelerated to 40 mph anyway, National Transportation Safety Board vice chairman told reporters. Moments after accelerating, the engineer noticed the freight train ahead and applied his emergency brakes; the passenger train then skidded about 400 to 500 feet and slammed into the freight train at about 35 mph, he said. Most of the 187 passengers on board the train traveling to Chicago from Grand Rapids, Michigan, walked away without major injuries from the impact. Three people, one Amtrak crew member and two passengers, were hospitalized overnight and released Saturday. The Norfolk Southern freight train was traveling from Elizabeth, New Jersey, to Chicago, and neither of two workers aboard was hurt. The accident caused \$1.3 million in damage, federal authorities said.

Source: <http://www.cnn.com/2007/US/12/02/train.collusion.ap/index.html>

17. *December 2, United Press International* – (Arizona) **Anxious passenger temporarily stops flight.** A Southwest Airlines flight was temporarily grounded last Friday in Phoenix, Arizona, after an anxious passenger allegedly tried to open the door to the cockpit. Police said the unidentified passenger, apparently suffering from flight anxiety, suddenly left his seat and tried to enter the cockpit as the plane was taxiing on the runway. The flight crew immediately asked the man to return to his seat and he complied, but as a precautionary measure the plane returned to the gate. Airport security and police officers then escorted the man off the plane, but he was not placed under arrest.

Source:

[http://www.upi.com/NewsTrack/Top\\_News/2007/12/02/anxious\\_passenger\\_temporarily\\_stops\\_flight/9302/](http://www.upi.com/NewsTrack/Top_News/2007/12/02/anxious_passenger_temporarily_stops_flight/9302/)

18. *December 1, Ukrainian Journal* – (New York) **AeroSvit plane grounded at Kennedy airport, raising safety concerns.** An AeroSvit plane was grounded Friday for safety reasons at the John F. Kennedy airport in New York, leaving 115 passengers, including international travelers, stranded for more than 24 hours. Subsequently, AeroSvit’s failure for hours to adequately respond to the issue angered the passengers who confronted the staff demanding re-booking of their flights via other airlines. JFK police was called in to stop further aggravation. An AeroSvit cargo operations manager, who was put by the airline in charge of dealing with the angry passengers, said Friday that fire sensors in the right wing needed to be replaced for the aircraft to fly again. But on

Saturday morning, he identified the problem as “electrical failure in the right wing.” This is the second such incident involving an AeroSvit plane in New York over the past three weeks, raising concerns about the aircraft safety at Ukraine’s biggest airline.

Source: <http://www.ukrainianjournal.com/index.php?w=article&id=5663>

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## **Postal and Shipping Sector**

19. *November 30, Kansas City Star* – (Kansas) **Explosive device goes off in postal locker.**

An explosive device of some sort was set off about 4 a.m. Friday in a Postal Service parcel locker in Lawrence, Kansas, officials said. The Postal Inspection Service was brought in to investigate.

Source: [http://www.kansascity.com/news/breaking\\_news/story/383879.html](http://www.kansascity.com/news/breaking_news/story/383879.html)

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## **Agriculture and Food Sector**

20. *December 3, United Press International* – (National) **FDA panel says U.S. food supply at risk.** In a report to be officially released Tuesday, a subcommittee of the U.S. Food and Drug Administration’s (FDA) science board says the nation’s food supply is at risk, as are the FDA’s regulatory systems. The report, which is the result of a year-long review, attributes the deficiencies to increasing demands on the FDA, as well as a lack of resources that have not increased in proportion to the demands. The experts concluded that the “imbalance is imposing a significant risk to the integrity of the food, drug, cosmetic and device regulatory system, and hence the safety of the public.” The report urges an increase in funding for the agency to hire a broadly-capable scientific workforce and build a sophisticated, modern information technology infrastructure. The report is available at [http://www.fda.gov/ohrms/dockets/ac/07/briefing/2007-4329b\\_02\\_00\\_index.html](http://www.fda.gov/ohrms/dockets/ac/07/briefing/2007-4329b_02_00_index.html).

Source:

[http://www.upi.com/NewsTrack/Science/2007/12/03/fda\\_panel\\_says\\_us\\_food\\_supply\\_at\\_risk/6907/](http://www.upi.com/NewsTrack/Science/2007/12/03/fda_panel_says_us_food_supply_at_risk/6907/)

21. *December 2, USA Today* – (National) **Most recalled meat is never recovered, likely is eaten.** According to an analysis of recall data from the U.S. Department of Agriculture, most recalled meat is never recovered. The analysis shows that in the 73 meat recalls this year and last, recovery rates per recall averaged 44 percent. For five recalls that followed reports of consumer illness, recovery rates per recall averaged just 20 percent. This raises the possibility that the meat was consumed before or even after the recall. Recovery rates vary for several reasons, including how quickly meat gets to market and the number of days between production and detection.

Source: [http://www.usatoday.com/money/industries/food/2007-12-02-meat-recalls\\_N.htm](http://www.usatoday.com/money/industries/food/2007-12-02-meat-recalls_N.htm)

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## Water Sector

22. *December 3, Associated Press* – (Alabama, Florida, Georgia) **Atlanta could lose Lake Lanier water.** Georgia may be in danger of losing the rights to water from Lake Lanier, the federal reservoir that supplies Atlanta with most of its water. The state was given rights to 25 percent of the lake's water under an agreement in 2003 with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Alabama and Florida, however, claim the agreement is illegal. A federal appeals court is expected to issue a decision that could invalidate the agreement and change the dynamic of the decades-old legal fight. Georgia uses about 10 to 15 percent of the capacity in Lake Lanier for drinking water. Alabama and Florida contend that Georgia has no legal right to the Lanier water it is already using, let alone additional water to be used over the coming decades for hydroelectric power. They have said Atlanta's withdrawals would dry up river flows into their states that support smaller cities, power plants, commercial fisheries and industrial users.  
Source: <http://www.cbs46.com/news/14756097/detail.html>

23. *December 2, Associated Press* – (Arizona) **Mesa residents worried about water contamination.** Talley Defense Systems, the defense contractor responsible for groundwater contamination in east Mesa, Arizona, is seeking a permit to continue burning ammonium nitrate and perchlorate rocket propellants there for at least another 10 years, a move that concerns environmentalists and residents. Talley has been making propellant-based products such as shoulder-launched weapons, emergency ejection seats for airplanes and airbag components for cars at the Mesa site since 1966. A U.S. Environmental Protection Agency report dating back to 1980 identified the underground plume of contamination at Talley's burn site, but did not recommend additional testing or cleanup activities, partially because of its remote location. But in the 25 years that followed the report, growth and development encroached on the Talley site, with hundreds of east Mesa homes now within a mile of its location. A Talley spokeswoman says her company is aware of the problem and is working on a plan to clean up the perchlorate contamination.  
Source: <http://www.kold.com/Global/story.asp?S=7439047>

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## Public Health and Healthcare Sector

24. *December 2, VOA News* – (International) **China reports 17th bird flu death.** China's health ministry has confirmed that a man died Sunday from the H5N1 strain of bird flu in coastal province of Jiangsu. No bird flu outbreak has been reported among the province's wild birds or poultry, and information about how and where the man may have contracted the virus was not immediately available. The World Health Organization reports there have been at least 25 human cases of H5N1 confirmed in China in recent years, 16 of them fatal.  
Source: <http://www.voanews.com/english/2007-12-02-voa24.cfm>
25. *December 1, Washington Post* – (National) **U.S. rate of new HIV infections may be**

**much higher.** Federal estimates of the number of Americans newly infected with HIV may be 50 percent higher than previously assumed. The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has for the past decade estimated the number of new HIV infections nationwide at about 40,000 cases annually. But sources close to scientists who are finalizing the new numbers say the number is closer to 50,000 or 60,000. The increase is due to a change in blood sampling, which can now identify people who were infected within the past five months. This allows scientists to better differentiate new infections from longstanding ones. The new data, which comes from large cities and 19 states, may not mean that the HIV epidemic is growing in the U.S., merely that it is larger than experts had previously assumed.

Source: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2007/12/01/AR2007120100791.html>

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## **Government Facilities Sector**

26. *December 2, Sun Herald* – (Mississippi) **Suspicious package found at Keesler.** In Mississippi, officials at Keesler Air Force Base said they found a suspicious package on base Saturday morning, but refused to release any more details about the case. First responders were called to the scene; the case is still under investigation, base public affairs officers said.

Source: <http://www.sunherald.com/201/story/220527.html>

27. *December 1, Associated Press* – (North Carolina) **Report: No abnormal radiation at Lejeune.** There are no unnatural levels of radioactivity at a former Navy research facility at Camp Lejeune, North Carolina, or near a rifle range at the base where material from the laboratory was buried decades ago, according to an analysis conducted for the military. Officials at Camp Lejeune, the Marine Corps' primary base on the Atlantic Ocean, sought the analysis after the discovery of a document earlier this year that showed the Navy had buried 160 pounds of soil and two animal carcasses laced with strontium-90, an isotope that causes cancer and leukemia, in a remote area near the rifle range. According to the paperwork, the waste was later recovered, "safely stored" and was awaiting shipment to an approved disposal site in South Carolina. But base officials said that because of record keeping practices in the early 1980s, the Marine Corps could not find proof the material had been moved. A former Marine master sergeant came across the Navy document while researching the base's history of contaminated water. Over three decades, tens of thousands of Marines at Camp Lejeune and their families drank and bathed in water contaminated with industrial solvents. The wells, shut off in the mid-1980s, had as many as 40 times more toxins than permitted by safety standards. The base's water now meets federal standards.

Source: [http://www.examiner.com/a-1079393~Report\\_No\\_Abnormal\\_Radiation\\_at\\_Lejeune.html](http://www.examiner.com/a-1079393~Report_No_Abnormal_Radiation_at_Lejeune.html)

28. *November 30, Associated Press* – (Texas) **3 teenagers arrested for allegedly plotting school attack.** Police arrested three high school students for allegedly plotting an attack on Ector High School in Texas, officials said Friday. No weapons or written plans were

found, although police said they believe the boys intended to carry out an attack Thursday. School officials received an anonymous tip from a parent Wednesday about the plot, the Ector superintendent said. He then decided to close all three schools on Thursday. Parents were notified Wednesday night by telephone that there was a gas leak at the schools and that classes were canceled Thursday, the superintendent said. The three suspects were arrested Thursday afternoon.

Source: <http://www.chron.com/disp/story.mpl/ap/tx/5343039.html>

29. *November 30, Associated Press* – (Washington) **Fort Lewis MPs find stolen handgun, “suspicious device.”** Military police at Fort Lewis, Washington, arrested a man Friday, after finding a handgun and a “suspicious device” in his car after making a routine traffic stop in one of the post’s training areas. In the car, the MPs found a pistol that had been reported stolen, and in the trunk, a “tape-wrapped object about the size of a deck of playing cards wired to a garage door opener.” A spokesman for the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms said he did not know whether the device proved to be a bomb. A U.S. Army news release says the man, who was not immediately identified, was arrested for outstanding warrants and was being held at Fort Lewis. The news release says MPs “have no indication that the suspect intended to target Fort Lewis personnel.”
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## **Emergency Services Sector**

30. *December 3, Flightglobal.com* – (International) **Call for airlines to share data about on-board medical incidents.** An expert in telemedicine is calling for airlines to share data on in-flight medical emergencies so on-board provision of equipment and medication can be brought up to date. Presenting to his peers at the Royal Society of Medicine in London, UK, last week, the doctor said most air-ground medical services are “still working on decisions based on assumptions made 20-30 years ago,” and the same is true of the contents of many on-board medical packs. Airlines say that diverting an aircraft unnecessarily because of a perceived on-board medical emergency is costly and can introduce operational risks, but there is no system for exchanging information on such incidents across the industry to enable equipment, training and practices to be optimized, according to the expert who works at the Aberdeen Royal Infirmary (ARI) for the International Centre for Emergency Medicine and its aeromedical service TheFirstCall. He was presenting the Royal Society with the results of a five-year study produced by the ARI from data collected from all medical emergencies that the organization has dealt with. One of the findings quoted was that older travelers are no more likely than younger people to need emergency care en route. The most common ailment of all is diarrhea, he reveals, and most on-board medical emergencies are the result of pre-existing conditions. To reduce the likelihood of illness en route, he recommends better passenger education for people traveling who are sick, and more up-to-date training for flight attendants, whom he believes should work with simple on-board aids to help them cope with incidents that arise in flight. TheFirstCall says it believes that a global data sharing system across the industry would save lives, make medical care efficient and could kick-start a wider global database.

Source: <http://www.flightglobal.com/articles/2007/12/03/219966/call-for-airlines-to-share-data-about-on-board-medical.html>

31. *December 3, HealthDay News* – (National) **Most ERs not fully prepared for pediatric patients.** Parents who find themselves rushing a child to the nearest emergency room might want to keep a new finding in mind: only 6 percent of emergency rooms in the United States have all the equipment they should have on hand to treat youngsters. Many hospitals declined to respond to the survey, however, so the University of California, Los Angeles researchers suspect the true number of centers that do not meet recommendations might be even lower. Among other deficiencies, hospitals failed to have a variety of devices geared toward infants and newborn babies, according to the survey, which is published in the December issue of *Pediatrics*. The survey does not address the issue of whether hospitals with less appropriate equipment provide substandard services to children, noted the medical director of Injury Prevention and Research at Children’s Memorial Hospital in Chicago. “But if you don’t have equipment small enough for a child, it is not a big leap to think this may affect a child’s care.” Surveys were sent in 2003 to 5,144 emergency rooms around the United States, asking about what equipment was geared toward the proper treatment of children. The researchers wanted to know if the hospitals were following 2001 guidelines regarding pediatric care that were released by the American Academy of Pediatrics and the American College of Emergency Physicians. According to the study, only 11 percent of emergency room visits by kids occur in hospitals specifically designed to treat children. The rest end up in regular emergency rooms. Just half of the hospitals surveyed had so-called laryngeal mask airways on hand for children. The masks, equipped with tubes, allow patients to breathe when their airway may be obstructed. The authors add that “much work is left to be done to improve pediatric preparedness of [emergency rooms].” Source: <http://www.kvia.com/Global/story.asp?S=7442015>

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## **Information Technology**

32. *December 3, IDG News Service* – (National) **Facebook admits Beacon tracks logged-off users.** Facebook has confirmed findings of a CA security researcher that the social-networking site’s Beacon ad service is more intrusive and stealthy than previously acknowledged, an admission that contradicts statements made previously by Facebook executives and representatives. Facebook’s controversial Beacon ad system tracks users’ off-Facebook activities even if those users are logged off from the social-networking site and have previously declined having their activities on specific external sites broadcast to their Facebook friends, a company spokesman said via e-mail over the weekend. Although according to the spokesman, Facebook does nothing with the data transmitted back to its servers in these cases and deletes it, the admission will probably fan the flames of the controversy engulfing Beacon, which has been criticized by privacy advocates. The Facebook spokesman did not initially reply to a request for further explanation on how the Beacon action gets triggered if a user is logged off from Facebook, when the social-networking site’s ability to track its users’ activities should be inactive. It is also unclear whether Facebook plans to modify Beacon so it does not

track and report on the off-Facebook activities of logged-off users. Beacon tracks certain activities of Facebook users on more than 40 participating Web sites, including those of Blockbuster and Fandango, and reports those activities to the users' set of Facebook friends, unless told not to do so. Off-Facebook activities that can be broadcast to one's Facebook friends include purchasing a product, signing up for a service and including an item on a wish list. The program has been blasted by groups such as MoveOn.org and by individual users who have unwittingly broadcast information about recent purchases and other Web activities to their Facebook friends. On Thursday night, Facebook tweaked Beacon to make its workings more explicit to Facebook users and to make it easier to nix broadcast messages and opt out of having activities tracked on specific Web sites. Facebook did not go all the way to providing a general opt-out option for the entire Beacon program, as some had hoped.

Source: [http://www.infoworld.com/article/07/12/03/Facebook-admits-Beacon-tracks-logged-off-users\\_1.html](http://www.infoworld.com/article/07/12/03/Facebook-admits-Beacon-tracks-logged-off-users_1.html)

33. *December 3, IDG News Service* – (National) **Attackers target unpatched QuickTime flaw.** Attackers are trying to exploit an unpatched vulnerability in Apple's QuickTime software that could let them run code on a victim's computer, Symantec warned in a DeepSight Threat Management System alert issued Sunday. First observed on Saturday, the attacks appear to be aimed at Windows users, but Mac OS users could also be at risk since the QuickTime vulnerability in question affects both operating systems, the alert said. That vulnerability, called the Apple QuickTime RTSP Response Header Stack-Based Buffer Overflow Vulnerability, was first disclosed on November 23, and remains unpatched by Apple. Researchers have shown that the QuickTime vulnerability affects a range of operating systems, including Windows XP, Windows Vista, MacOS X 10.4, and the recently released MacOS X 10.5, also called Leopard. The vulnerability can be exploited through Internet Explorer, Firefox, Opera, and Safari. There are two types of attacks underway, Symantec said. In the first, victims' computers are being redirected from an adult Web site, Ourvoyeur.net, to another Web site that infects the computer with an application called loader.exe, which can be saved to the computer as metasploit.exe, asasa.exe, or syst.exe. Once installed on a computer this application downloads another binary file, which Symantec identified as Hacktool.Rootkit, a set of tools that can be used to break into a system. Symantec said it was possible attackers had managed to compromise Ourvoyeur.net as part of the attack. The second attack also involves redirection, and Symantec is currently investigating the attack to determine what, if any, malicious code is involved. To protect systems from attack, Symantec recommended blocking access to affected sites. "Filter outgoing access to 85.255.117.212, 85.255.117.213, 216.255.183.59, 69.50.190.135, 58.65.238.116, and 208.113.154.34. Additionally 2005-search.com, 1800-search.com, search-biz.org, and ourvoyeur.net should be filtered," it said, adding IT managers can also block outgoing TCP access to port 554. Alternatively, IT managers could take more drastic steps. "As a last measure, QuickTime should be uninstalled until patches are available," the alert said.

Source: [http://www.infoworld.com/article/07/12/03/Attackers-target-unpatched-QuickTime-flaw\\_1.html](http://www.infoworld.com/article/07/12/03/Attackers-target-unpatched-QuickTime-flaw_1.html)

34. *December 3, IDG News Service* – (International) **Shell, Rolls Royce reportedly hacked by Chinese spies.** Great Britain’s domestic intelligence agency is warning that cybercrime perpetrated by China is on the rise following hacking attacks against Rolls-Royce and Royal Dutch Shell. The agency, known as MI5, recently sent letters to some 300 banks, accounting and legal firms warning that “state organizations” of China were plying their networks for information, according to the *Times of London* on Monday. The U.K. government refused on Monday to confirm the letters. However, the reported correspondence comes just a month after the U.K.’s top domestic intelligence officer warned of “high levels” of covert activity by at least 20 foreign intelligence agencies, with Russia and China as the most active. The *Times*, quoting an unnamed source, reported that Rolls-Royce’s network was infected with a Trojan horse program by Chinese hackers that sent information back to a remote server. Dutch Shell uncovered a Chinese spying ring in Houston, aimed at pilfering confidential pricing information for the oil giant’s operations in Africa, the paper said, citing “security sources.” The rise in hacking originating in China and Russia has been well-documented by security researchers. But it has been harder to distinguish between state-sponsored hackers and those just operating in the same geographic region, said a senior technology consultant for security firm Sophos PLC. Some 30 percent of the malicious software created is written by Chinese, he said, but about 17 percent of those programs are designed to steal the passwords of users who play online games rather than intended for industrial espionage, he said.

Source: [http://www.infoworld.com/article/07/12/03/Shell-Rolls-Royce-reportedly-hacked-by-Chinese-spies\\_1.html](http://www.infoworld.com/article/07/12/03/Shell-Rolls-Royce-reportedly-hacked-by-Chinese-spies_1.html)

### Internet Alert Dashboard

To report cyber infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact US-CERT at [soc@us-cert.gov](mailto:soc@us-cert.gov) or visit their Website: [www.us-cert.gov](http://www.us-cert.gov).

Information on IT information sharing and analysis can be found at the IT ISAC (Information Sharing and Analysis Center) Website: <https://www.it-isac.org/>.

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## Communications Sector

35. *December 3, Techlinks* – (National) **McAfee partners with Cox Communications to provide comprehensive security suite.** In a press release Monday, McAfee, Inc. announced a partnership with the U.S. cable provider Cox Communications to deliver the Cox Security Suite powered by McAfee to all Cox High Speed Internet customers. “We recognize that safe and secure high-speed Internet access is critical to our customers, and we pride ourselves on offering powerful PC and online protection from viruses, hackers and spyware,” said the director of product development for Cox. “Our new security offering powered by McAfee will enable consumers to do everything from surfing the Web to shopping online with much greater peace of mind.” Under the terms of the agreement, the new Cox Security Suite powered by McAfee will launch in early 2008, and will help protect consumers from a wide variety of computer and Internet



threats with McAfee VirusScan Plus, McAfee Privacy Service and McAfee SiteAdvisor. A McAfee rep said “the recently released National Cyber Security Alliance online security study showed more than 90 percent of consumers think they are protected against online threats, while less than half actually have sufficient protection. Our partnership with Cox will expand security education, while protecting their customers to help them enjoy the Internet the way it was designed to be used.”

Source:

<http://www.techlinks.net/CommunityAnnouncements/tabid/55/articleType/ArticleView/articleId/181204/McAfee-Partners-With-Cox-Communications-to-Provide-Comprehensive-Security-Suite.aspx>

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## **Commercial Facilities Sector**

36. *December 1, Lima News* – (Ohio) **Bomb threat comes during busy shopping night.** In Ohio, about 40 employees and 100 shoppers were evacuated from the J.C. Penney in the Lima Mall on Friday night and the store entrances were blocked off after a bomb threat was made. Bomb-sniffing dogs were taken through the store, nothing was found. Sheriff’s deputies were stationed at all the entrances to the store. This was the third bomb threat in Lima in the past few months.

Source: <http://www.tradingmarkets.com/.site/news/Stock%20News/874248/>

37. *December 1, KFMB 8 San Diego* – (California) **Pipe bomb detonated outside Rolando apartment.** Police in Rolando, California, are looking for the person who left a pipe bomb outside an apartment complex there Saturday morning. The bomb squad detonated it around 10 a.m. on the lawn of the Village Green Apartments. No one was injured, but authorities said the device was capable of seriously hurting or killing someone. Another bomb was found in the same area in 2006. Police are investigating whether the incidents are related.

Source: <http://www.cbs8.com/stories/story.110527.html>

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## **National Monuments & Icons Sector**

Nothing to report

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## **Dams Sector**

38. *December 2, Fayetteville Observer* – (North Carolina) **Council to decide fate of neighborhood dams.** Many communities in and around Fayetteville, North Carolina, have dams more than 40 years old that could require costly repairs one day. The structural problems that arise with these aging earthen dams are often too vast and expensive for small neighborhood groups to repair. The City Council is poised to decide

this month who should fix small neighborhood dams in Fayetteville — homeowners or taxpayers — and under what circumstances the city should just breach faulty dams and drain lakes. Loch Lomond's dam is one of five in Cumberland County that the state says are deficient, meaning the dam needs thousands of dollars in repairs, according to state records. Four of the deficient dams are in Fayetteville. Dozens of other small neighborhood dams, records show, have been deficient in the past 10 years before repairs were made. The county has about 100 dams regulated by the North Carolina Division of Land Resources. The dams are often in private hands with limited means to hire a professional engineer and make repairs, the price of which can add up to hundreds of thousands of dollars. When problems arise with a dam, neighbors face the task of raising the money — or begging the city or county for a bailout — to save their dam and lake.

Source: <http://www.fayobserver.com/article?id=279344>

39. *November 30, Times-Picayune* – (Louisiana) **New levee in lake an option for Corps.**

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers may consider an alternative for keeping storm surge out of three drainage canals in New Orleans: build a new semicircular levee in Lake Pontchartrain from Bucktown to the east side of the London Avenue Canal. The proposal might include pumping stations embedded into the new levee, along with a gate for boat access in front of the Municipal Yacht Harbor. If adopted, the proposal would avoid having to locate pump stations on private or public property at the canal mouths and might use the leveed space as a buffer for holding water during a hurricane. The corps has committed to providing the New Orleans area with protection from flooding from a hurricane with a 1-in-100 chance of occurring in any year – a so-called 100-year hurricane – by 2011.

Source: [http://blog.nola.com/times-picayune/2007/11/new\\_levee\\_in\\_lake\\_an\\_option\\_fo.html](http://blog.nola.com/times-picayune/2007/11/new_levee_in_lake_an_option_fo.html)

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